

# **Seneca-Shawnee Indian census document S1559**

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July 07, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Title</b>	Seneca-Shawnee Indian census document
<b>Date</b>	circa 1817-1831
<b>Extent</b>	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Text [Folder]</b>	S1559

### Preferred Citation

Seneca-Shawnee Indian census document, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

## Historical Note

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The Seneca people were one of the tribes of the Sixth Nations in the Iroquois Confederacy. The westernmost member of the Iroquois, the Seneca people lived in western New York and Ohio Territory (encompassing nearly all of present-day Ohio, northwestern West Virginia, western Pennsylvania, and eastern Indiana) prior to the American Revolution. The Shawnee, meanwhile, occupied areas spanning present-day Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia, Western Maryland, Alabama, South Carolina, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, and Pennsylvania in the United States.

In 1817, the Ohio Shawnee signed the Treaty of Fort Meigs, gave up their remaining lands in exchange for three reservations in Wapaughkonetta, Hog Creek (near Lima today) and Lewistown, Ohio. Soon thereafter, a mixed band of Seneca and Shawnee formed near Lewistown, Ohio under the leadership of a Seneca chief, Civil John (Me-tho-mea or Mesomea). At one time, the group totalled 250 people and 162 horses. The Indian Removal Act of 1830 strong-armed the Shawnee and other Native American tribes to move west of the Mississippi River. In 1831, the Seneca-Shawnee band ceded their land in Ohio for land within the Cherokee Nation in Indian Territory (modern-day Oklahoma).

Sources:

Items in the collection.

Hamlin-Wilson, Gail, Donald Ricky, and Nancy K. Capace. *Encyclopedia of Indiana Indians: Tribes, Nations and People of the Woodlands Areas*. (St. Clair Shores, MI: Somerset, 1998), 117, 128, 240-242.

Kapper, Charles J., ed. "Treaty with the Wyandot, etc., September 8, 1815." *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties*, vol. 2, pp. 117-119. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1904. Accessed July 25, 2015. <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/Vol2/treaties/wya0117.htm>.

Smith, Pamela A. "Shawnee, Eastern." *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*. Accessed July 25, 2015. <http://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=SH018>.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection includes a two-page, handwritten census of the "mixed band" of Seneca and Shawnee led by Civil John (Me-tho-mea), possibly taken by an appointed Indian agent, in present-day Ohio circa 1810s-1830s, regarding the names of the heads of families, the number, age range, and gender of individuals per family, the number of horses per family, and any remarks.

## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

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### Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from an unknown donor on an unknown date.

### Accruals

No further additions are expected.

### Processing Information

Collection processing and finding aid completed 2015/04/02 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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## **Geographic Name(s)**

- Ohio

## **Subject(s)**

- Census
- Indians of North America
- Seneca Indians
- Shawnee Indians